day did I fight with one Sampson Stockfish, a fruiterer, behind Gray's-inn. O, the mad days that I

have done, namely, that the compositions which Bale ascribes to the supposed *John* Scogan, were written by Henry. Bale and Tanner were, I believe, Mr. Warton's only authority.

" As to the two circumstances (says Mr. Tyrwhitt,) of his being a *master of arts* of Oxford, and *jester* to the king, I can find no older authority for it than Dr. Borde's book. That he was contemporary with Chaucer, but so as to survive him several years, perhaps till the reign of Henry V. is sufficiently clear from this poem [the poem mentioned in the former part of my note].

" Shakspeare seems to have followed the jest-book, in considering Scogan as a mere buffoon, when he mentions as one of Falstaff*s boyish exploits that he broke Scogan's head at the court-gate." *Tyrwhitt's Chaucer*, vol. v. Pref.

" Among a number of people of all sorts who had letters of protection to attend Richard II. upon his expedition into Ireland in 1399, is *Henricus Scogan, Armiger*." *Ibidem*, p. xv.

MALONE.

This was *John Scogan*, jester to King Edward IV. and not *Henry*, the poet, who lived long before, but is frequently confounded with him. Our author, no doubt, was well read in John's Jests, *] gathered by Andrew Boarde, doctor of phvsick/* and printed in 4to, and black letter, but without date: and his existence, which has been lately called in question, (for what may not be called in question ?) is completely ascertained by the following characteristic epitaph, accidentally retrieved from a contemporary manuscript in the Harleian library (No. 1587):

Hic iacet in tumulo corpus *Scogan* ecce
Johannis:
Sit tibi pro speculo, letus fuit eius in annis:
Leti transibunt, transitus vitare nequibunt;
Quo nescimus ibunt, vinosi cito peribunt.

Holinshed, speaking of the great men of Edward the Fourth's time, mentions <* *Scogan,* a learned gentleman, and student for a time in Oxford, of a pleasaunte witte, and bent to merry deuises, in respect whereof he was called into the courte, where giuing himselfe to his naturall inclination of mirthe and pleasaunt pastime, he plaied many sporting parts, although not in suche vnciuill maner as hath bene of hym reported." ^These

uncivil reports, evidently allude to the above jest-book, a circumstance of which no one who consults it will have the least doubt. See also Bale's Scriptores Britanniae, and Tanner's Bibliotheca Britannico-Hibernica, art. *Skoean*. After all, there is some reason to believe that John was actually a little bit of a poet. Drayton, in his preface to his Eclogues, says, that " the Colin Clout of *Scogan*, under